Discussion of FIA Applications

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Import of FIA Data

- FIA data is a key input to the US GHG Inventory as well as many forestry- and land use-related projects and models, including those used for land use and GHG projections
 - Example: some models use plot information, TPO data
 - Specifically for identification of historic trends and recent status of forest area and location, tree species and size, tree growth, mortality, and removals, production of various products, and forest land ownership.
- Expanding use of FIA data in analysis and policy applications



Different Users & Uses

- This data and related projections are used in multiple ways in various applications
 - Used in state programs
 - Included in federal legislative efforts
 - To conduct analysis for production of peer reviewed scientific publications
 - To inform USG policymaking and official reports
 - Serves as the basis of federal agency technical analyses and products
 - Example: assessment of biogenic CO2 emissions



Reliable, Up-to-Date & Comprehensive Data

- Challenges/Opportunities: Getting it right, getting it current
 - Changes to methods that change outcomes
 - Full US coverage of US plots every 10 years = time lag
 - Improved spatial resolution
 - As the foundation for future projections, any uncertainty in FIA data inherently in projections
- Having reliable, up-to-date and comprehensive data for the US is crucial
 - Ideal to have plots updated nationally more regularly and more spatial resolution
 - Especially important when FIA data is used to assess current/recent status and trends to inform policymaking and for use in programs
 - Can really affect setting and achieving policy/program goals, metrics for measuring progress



THANK YOU

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